Mechanism to monitor the execution of contracts etc.

7049. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the actions of the officers who are authorised to execute contracts and assurances of property on behalf of thet President under Article 299 (1) of the Constitution of India;

(b) if so, what is the nature of this machanism;

(c) whether any irregularities or defaults were noticed during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ; (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Criminalization of electoral politics'

7050. SHRI G. G. SWELL; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electoral politics is significantly criminalised;

(b) if so, what are the corrective measures recommended so far by various official and semi-official" committees and how the proposed reforms are going to tackle these problems;

(c) whether it is a fact that political parties largely nominate candidates on the basis of the caste and communal composition of the constituencies;

(d) if so, why not work out electoral constituencies where candidates attribu tes like caste and community attached tot individual would not count and mainly party and its performance would be in focus;

(e) if so, whether this process strengthens casteism and communalism; and

(f) whether it is also a fact that successive elections have weakened national integration and boosted casteism and communalism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) However, making certain prac tices as electoral offences, enhancing punishment for certain existing electoral offences, amplification of the offence of booth capturing and enhancing punish ment therefor, use of electronic voting machines, deletion of death of a candi date as a ground for countermanding of elections, introduction of photo identity cards reduction in campaign period, etc., are some of the measures recommended to prevent malpractices and criminalisa-tion in the electoral process.

(c) The Government has no information in this regard.

(d) Does not arise. Moreover, it may not be feasible to work out such elecot-ral constituencies.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No Sir.

Auditing of books under Companies Act, 1956

7051. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MAL-HOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued Cost Accounting Records (Cosmetics and Toiletries) Rules, 1993 and the Cost Accounting Records (Soap and Deter gents) Rules, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any order for audit of the books of accounts have been issued by Government under the Companies Act, 1956;